

# BGR

We report to you.

**FIX MY STREETS  
WORKING GROUP  
FEBRUARY 25, 2016**

# street smarts

MAINTAINING AND MANAGING  
NEW ORLEANS' ROAD NETWORK



# THE PRICE OF CIVILIZATION

Addressing Infrastructure  
Needs in New Orleans

# Over the River

The Future of the  
Crescent City Connection  
Bridge and Ferries

APRIL 2011

# MAKING THE WATERWORKS WORK

Fixing the Sewerage & Water Board's  
Governance Problems

# the nonprofit margin

Addressing the Costs  
of the Nonprofit Exemption  
in New Orleans

# TIME TO PAY THE PIPELAYER?

The Proposed S&WB Rate  
Increases in Perspective

# THE \$1 BILLION QUESTION

Do the Tax Deductions in New Orleans Make Sense?

A Report from the Bureau of Governmental Research | NOVEMBER 2015

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MAINTAINING AND MANAGING  
NEW ORLEANS' ROAD NETWORK



- Create a Pavement Management System
- Focus on preventive maintenance
- Improve coordination



# THE PRICE OF CIVILIZATION

Addressing Infrastructure  
Needs in New Orleans

- Set citywide priorities.
- Focus on basic infrastructure needs.
- Address unfair assessments and excessive exemptions.

# the nonprofit margin

Addressing the Costs  
of the Nonprofit Exemption  
in New Orleans

- Narrow the range of properties eligible for exemptions.
- Tighten administration to prevent abuse.
- Impose service charges to broaden base.



# TAXATION IN NEW ORLEANS

**BGR Presentation  
to the Tax Fairness Commission**

**February 3, 2011**



# THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD & PILOT SUBSIDIES

**BGR Presentation  
to the Tax Fairness Commission**

**February 23, 2011**

“Subsidies to new businesses can harm existing property owners, both homes and businesses, in two respects:

unfair competitive advantage and a need for higher taxes on the existing tax base to support the incremental service demand created by the subsidized business.”





**It is time to identify tax dedications that are ripe for rededication to basic municipal needs.**

# THE \$1 BILLION QUESTION

**Do the Tax Dedications in New Orleans Make Sense?**

A Report from the Bureau of Governmental Research | **NOVEMBER 2015**

**Chart C: Where Does the Local Tax Dollar Go?**

Distribution of Orleans Parish Property, Sales, Hotel and Other Tax Revenue, 2015 Estimates

**Public Education**  
24 cents

**Public Safety**  
24 cents

**Tourism,  
Conventions  
and Sports**  
14 cents

**General  
Municipal**  
12 cents

**Flood Protection, Drainage** 8 cents

**Public Transportation** 7 cents

**Parks, Recreation, Library** 4 cents

**Streets and Traffic Signals** 3 cents

**Other** 4 cents

BGR estimates using the methodology set forth in Appendix F.



# Signs of Progress

**Pavement condition survey under way.**

**Coordination problems being addressed.**

**Increased maintenance funding.**

**New funding for capital needs.**

**S&WB pursuing drainage fees.**

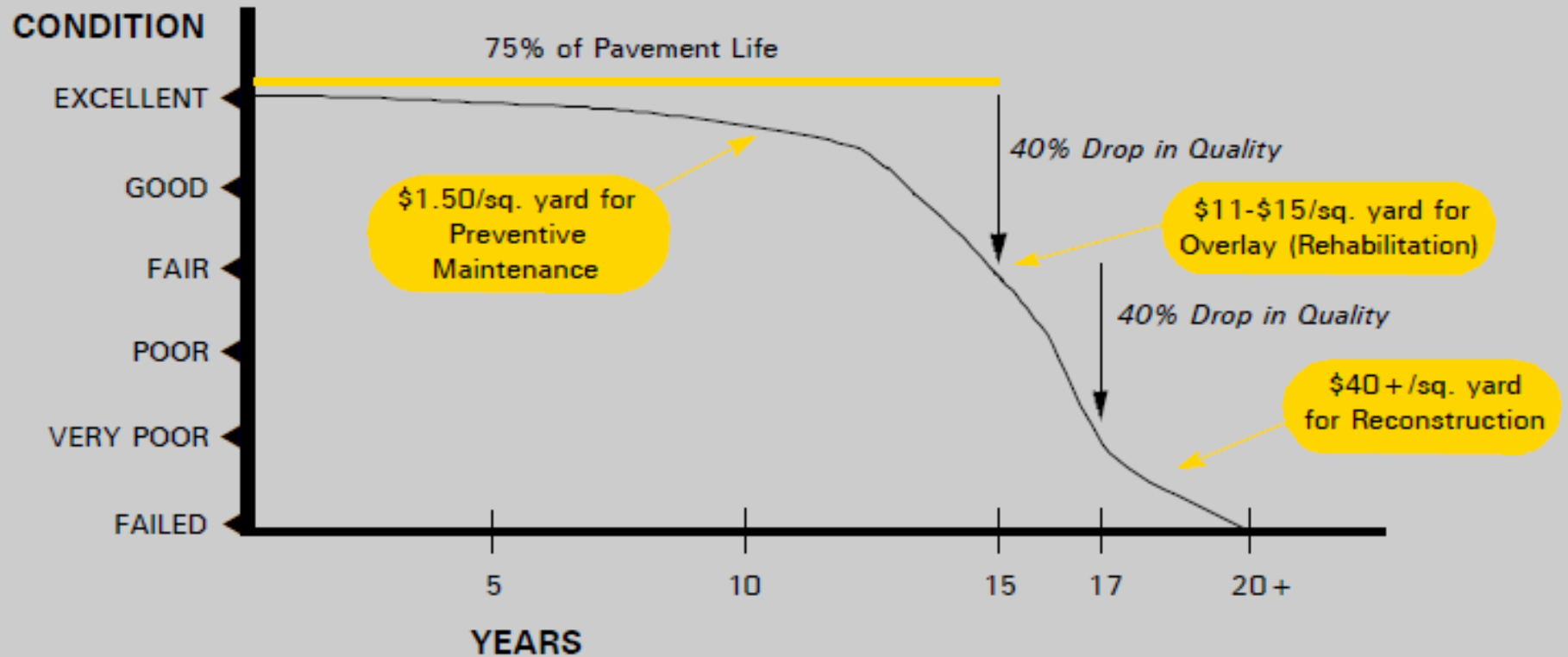
**Assessments may be improving.**



**We still have a  
long way to  
go.**



# PAVEMENT LIFE CURVE



SOURCE: City of Vancouver, Wash.

# PREVIOUS SUGGESTIONS

Re-evaluate local taxes going to non-city entities.

Redirect revenues generated by the Department of Public Works back into the department itself.

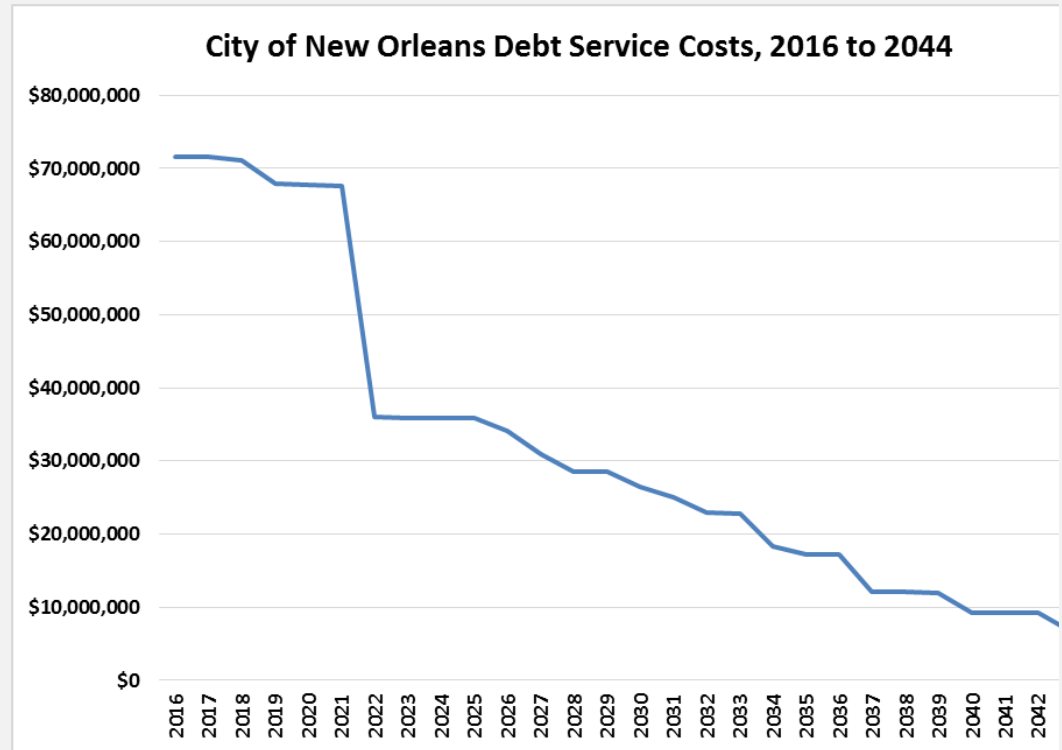
Impose transportation user fees (TUFs).

# LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD

As debt service costs decline, should the city shift to a **pay-as-you-go** approach?

Should the city pursue **new local revenue sources**?

Are old approaches, such as the **petition-and-lien program**, worth another try?



Source: Board of Liquidation, City Debt

# Thank you.

